(b) if so, what measures are being adopted by Government to save the plywood industry from this crisis; and

(c) the reasons for importing plywood?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) to (c) The import of Plywood has been free since prior to 1.4.1996 from the point of view of reducing pressure on our forests. However, import of Plywood has been declining as is evident from the figures mentioned below:—

Year	Value (Rs. lakh)
1998-99	3744.36
1999-2000	2423.76
2000-2001 (upto Nov. 2000)	1405.41

Decline in trade with neighbouring countries

†4142. PROF. R. B. S. VARMA: *Will the Minister of* COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the trade between India and its neighbouring countries has declined during the last three years;

(b) if so, the year-wise details thereof; and

(c) the names of the neighbouring countries with which trade took place during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) to (c) The year-wise details of India's trade with neighbouring countries namely China, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, and Maldives during the last three years are given below:—

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(Rupees Crores)

	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
	Export	Import	Export	Import	Export	Import
China	2668.71	4160.04	1797.05	4613.93	2373.84	5602.12
Myanmar	183.26	832.53	126.55	731.01	144.10	735.00
Bangladesh	2922.87	188.85	4188.50	262.53	2769.02	348.56
Nepal	631.99	353.64	514.97	609.40	663.77	489.90
Pakistan	532.02	165.19	446.38	902.19	405.35	296.74
Sri Lanka	1818.23	112.26	1839.01	158.50	2196.16	192.79
Bhutan	49.53	49.95	40.22	25.78	32.83	79.83
Maldives	32.46	0.89	35.24	0.22	33.85	1.40

The graph of trade with neighbouring countries during the last three years has gone up, though marginally, in the case of Sri Lanka while it has been fluctuating up and down in the case of other neighbouring countries.

FDI Flow in Core Sectors

†4143. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Foreign Direct Investment has increased during the year 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.